575 641 sport and defence organizations, cultural, technical and scientific societies; and the most active and politically conscious citizens in the ranks of the working class and other sections of the working people unite in the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks), which is the vanguard of the working people in their struggle to strengthen and develop the socialist system and is the leading core of all organizations of the working people, both public and state.

[694] Art. 102. Citizens of the Belorussian SSR are guaranteed inviolability of the person. No person may be placed under arrest except by decision of a court or with the sanction of a procurator.

Art. 103. The inviolability of the homes of citizens and privacy of correspondence are protected by law.

Art. 104. The Belorussian SSR affords the right of asylum to foreign citizens persecuted for defending the interests of the working people, or for their scientific activities, or for their struggle for national liberation.

Art. 105. It is the duty of every citizen of the Belorussian SSR to abide by the Constitution of the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, to observe the laws, to maintain labour discipline, honestly to perform public duties, and to respect the rules of socialist intercourse.

[421] [685] Art. 106. It is the duty of every citizen of the Belorussian SSR to safeguard and strengthen public socialist property as the sacred and inviolable foundation of the Soviet system, as the source of the wealth and might of the country, as the source of the prosperity and culture of all the working people.

Persons committing offences against public socialist property are enemies of the people.

Art. 107. Universal military service is law.

Military service in the armed forces of the USSR is an honourable duty of the citizens of the Belorussian SSR.

[687] Art. 108. To defend the fatherland is the sacred duty of every citizen of the Belorussian SSR. Treason to the country -- violation of the oath of allegiance, desertion to the enemy, impairing the military power of the state, espionage -- is punishable with all severity of law as the most heinous of crimes.

Chapter IX. The Electoral System

666 Art. 109. Members of all Soviets of Working People's Deputies -- of the Supreme Soviet of the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic and the regional, district, city, settlement and rural Soviets of Working People's Deputies -- are chosen by the electors on the basis of universal, direct and equal suffrage by secret ballot.

Art. 110. Elections of deputies are universal: all citizens of the Belorussian SSR who have reached the age of 18, irrespective of race or nationality, sex, religion, educational and residential qualifications, social origin, property status or past activities, have the right to vote in the election of deputies and to be elected, with the exception of insane persons and persons who have been convicted by a court of law and whose sentences include deprivation of electoral rights.